

**Fred L. E. Stewart**

*Director, Office of Africa*

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Fred Stewart is the Director for the Office of Africa at the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration. As the Director, he leads and coordinates eight senior staff in the advancement of U.S. commercial interests by managing projects and programs involving critical economic issues between the United States and Africa. Fred manages a superb team of professionals to implement key programs under the President's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa (PAC/DBIA), Power Africa, the U.S-Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the U.S.-East Africa Community Commercial Dialogue.

Prior to assuming his role at the Office of Africa, Mr. Stewart was the Director of International Programs at Kratos Defense from 2012 to 2015. And the Director of International Business Development at VSD where in 2010 under his tenure, the company was awarded the Compass Award for Excellence in International Trade by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

With almost ten years of in-country experience working in North Africa and the Middle East, Mr. Stewart brings a deep understanding of the Geo-Political environment with extensive involvement in driving prioritization of high level International projects, the execution of Memorandum of Understandings and the creation and implementation of International Joint Ventures.

A retired Naval Officer with a specialization in Steam Engineering and Propulsion Systems, Fred has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of New York and a Master's Certificate in Instructional Design. He currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Hampton Roads Navy League and the Board of Governors for the Propeller Club of Norfolk. Fred is a member of the Virginia Maritime Association and he is a past Board of Director and Treasurer for the International Society for Performance Improvement and a Past President of the Hampton Roads local chapter of ISPI.